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Attorney Docket No.: 70398

APR 0 4 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: D'AFRICA et al.

Serial No.

: 10/018,591

Confirm. No.: 3366

Filed

: December 7, 2001

For

: DEVICE AND METHOD...

Art Unit

: 3763

Examiner

: MAIORINO, ROZ

Dated

: April 4, 2005

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.136 (a)

Sir:

The Office Action dated December 3, 2005 provided for a shortened statutory period for response of three months.

The shortened statutory period expired March 3, 2005.

Since the attached response is being filed within the first month pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) Applicant attaches a Credit Card Payment Form and respectfully requests the Examiner to charge the appropriate petition fee of \$120.00 (fee code 1251).

> Respectfully submitted for Applicant(s),

By:

John James McGlew Reg. No.: 31,903

For:

JJM:jms

Enclosed:

70398.15

Credit Card Payment Form

01 FC:1251

120.09 02

DATED: April 4, 2005

SCARBOROUGH STATION

SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-9227

(914) 941-5600

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

DATED: April 4, 2005

SCARBOROUGH STATION

SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-9227

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